



SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

June
1953

Miscellany

Bill Ludlow Hut. Second Lieutenant William B. Ludlow, Jr., 23-year-old Sierra Club member, who skied and ski-toured in the Norden-Donner region and who learned, through the Sierra Club, to like mountains so well that he climbed the Matterhorn, recently was killed in line of duty at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

For memorial purposes, friends of Bill have made contributions to the Sierra Club, and Bill's family, with the desire to further "the basic ideals of the Sierra Club," have added a very generous contribution to the fund. It has been decided that the fund will be applied toward the cost of building a Bill Ludlow Hut as part of the chain on the Sierra Crest Skiway between U. S. 40 and 50.

FWOC Convention. The annual convention of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs will be held at Echo Lake Camp and Berkeley Camp, U. S. 50, September 5-7, with the California Alpine Club as hosts. Dr. Budd J. Smith, convention chairman, says the camp is beautiful, among pines and firs on the heights overlooking Lake Tahoe. The business meetings, conducted by President Sam Deal, are sure to be interesting and stimulating.

Albright Honored by U. C. Horace M. Albright, an Honorary Vice-President of the Sierra

Club, was chosen 1952 University of California "Alumnus of the Year" because he has "done more than perhaps anyone else to assure that generations to come will enjoy the same natural endowments of a great nation that are enjoyed by us today."

Mr. Albright was cited in part as "... Native Son of the California High Sierra, ... world leader in conservation, ... good steward of futurity, ... living an abundant life dedicated to the preservation and the enrichment of our American heritage ... one of the architects and a builder of our country's National Park Service"

Some Are Pigs: For a shocking account of misuse and over-use of our national parks, read "Tourists Who Act Like Pigs," in *The Saturday Evening Post*, May 30, 1953.

Custodians Wanted: For Parsons Memorial Lodge (Tuolumne Meadows) and Shasta Alpine Lodge, approximately July 1 through mid-September. Those interested should get in touch immediately with the chairman of the Committee on Lodges and Lands, Laurence Burnley, 421 Michigan Avenue, Berkeley 7.

On the Cover: Forest at Benson Lake, by Philip Hyde.

THE SIERRA CLUB,* founded in 1892, has devoted itself to the study and protection of national scenic resources, particularly those of the mountain regions of the Pacific Coast. Since these resources receive best protection from those who know them well, the club has long conducted educational activities to make them known. Participation is invited in the program to enjoy and preserve wilderness, wildlife, forests, and streams.

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Sierra Club Bulletin

VOLUME 38

JUNE, 1953

NUMBER 6

...TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT THE NATURAL MOUNTAIN SCENE...

For the June Record

Wilderness for Tomorrow

The third biennial Wilderness Conference, held in Berkeley on May 15 and 16, brought participants together from such widely different places as Washington and Denver, Jackson Hole and New York, Anchorage, Coeur d'Alene, Los Angeles and Point Barrow. It resulted in an increased recognition of the urgency of measures to better protect our wilderness, and in some definite recommendations.

Despite their varied backgrounds and experience, all who took part in the discussions share one common motivation: they want to work out *now* the provisions and policies that may assure wilderness for future users, too. Various speakers stressed repeatedly that what we have today is all the wilderness we will ever have; that there is no new wilderness to discover, no way to restore primeval quality to land that has once been exploited. It is our responsibility today to recognize tomorrow's need—probably greater than today's—for wilderness experience.

What and Why?

The 1953 Conference took up essentially where the second Conference had left off. Through the meetings in 1949 and 1951, it had become clear that the problems of any wilderness anywhere are the problems of all wilderness everywhere, and that those concerned with the problems—although approaching them from divergent viewpoints—were working more closely together than they had ever before realized. With the third Conference, the principal effort was to apply

this cooperation to a definite wilderness program.

Discussions at the Conference were about evenly divided between the philosophy and the actual practice of wilderness preservation. One entire day was given to thorough consideration of what constitutes wilderness, why we have preserved it, and what we seek in it; the bases on which further public support of wilderness preservation should be sought; how wilderness boundaries should be determined and maintained; what activities are appropriate to wilderness. The thought was fairly well developed that primitive character is easily lost and that its protection may be expected to become increasingly difficult. It was the sentiment of the Conference that the value of a given area *as wilderness* should be the controlling factor in establishing boundaries, rather than economic or other nonwilderness considerations. The importance of resisting intrusive developments—whether for commercial exploitation or merely for easier access—was repeatedly emphasized. The definition of wilderness and its protection may well be summarized in Dave Brower's ideal of "an area that shows no evidence of man's coming, being there, or having been there."

How to Save It?

A lively discussion on wilderness administration brought out the increasingly serious problem of damage to wilderness by those who visit it—often through sheer overuse, but most commonly through misuse. Again and again speakers stressed the need for education.

Noted and commended were the assignment of additional "roving" rangers to the back country in both parks and forests, the fine cooperation of many packers in clean-camp education and in actual cleanup, and the growing momentum of the campaign against the "litterbug." The Conference recognized, and urged steps to curb, an increasing tendency toward mechanized penetration into buffers and even into wilderness. Support for proposed national wilderness legislation was strongly reiterated.

Arctic Wilderness

From Kodachromes and from discussion by men who have worked in the area and know it well, the Conference learned something of the geography, ecology, and economy of the northeastern corner of Alaska—a region that is still wild by circumstance but cannot be expected to remain so without formal protection. The Conference made strong recommendations for continued study of the area, for continuing cooperation between administering agencies and organizations concerned with wilderness, and for increased effort in educating public and officials in its value as wilderness.

C. E. M.

Olmsted Grove

To honor Frederick Law Olmsted, who will be 83 on July 24 of this year, the Save-the-Redwoods League has announced that funds are now being collected for the establishment of a 40-acre grove of Coast Sequoias in the Prairie Creek Redwood State Park. "to be dedicated and known forever as the Frederick Law Olmsted Grove." Mr. Olmsted, an honorary vice-president of the Sierra Club, is a famous landscape architect who has made outstanding contributions to conservation, parks and city planning throughout the nation.

The proposed Olmsted Grove adjoins the C. A. Schenck Grove on Brown Creek, and has a stand of virgin redwoods the equivalent of four million board feet of lumber. The project involves raising a fund of \$10,000, one-fourth of which has already been contributed by friends. Donors should make their checks to the Save-the-Redwoods

League, and mail them to J. Harold Peterson, Secretary of the Committee, P. O. Box 152, Coronado, Calif.

Conservation Outpost

Congress: Committee hearings were held late in May on the "Stockmen's Bills," H.R. 4023 and S. 1491. Both proponents and opponents of these measures had an opportunity to present their views but the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service could not testify, as their reports had not yet been approved by the Bureau of the Budget.

The House Subcommittee on Public Lands apparently concluded its hearing without the testimony of the two government agencies. The Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, on the other hand, adjourned its hearing until such time as the government reports are available.

It is possible (and we are hopeful) that no further action will be taken on these measures during this session, or even in the next session. But the persistence of the few influential stockmen who are leading this campaign is such that this legislation must continue to be watched carefully.

Legislature: It appears that our California state park system will be less concrete and more woody with the defeat of the Redwood Highway bills. S. 69 was voted down in the Senate Committee on Natural Resources so that it did not reach the floor of the Senate. The Belotti bill, A.B. 2570, though generating more heat, fell to defeat but by the narrowest margin.

The Senate vote on the Belotti bill resulted in a tied 17-17 vote, broken only when the Senate president, Goodwin Knight, voted against the measure and then referred it to Committee where it was killed.

A new measure, S.C.R. 68, was introduced on May 5 by Senator Way (Humboldt County) which, if passed, will provide the proper approach to the Redwood Highway problem. It requests the California Highway Commission and State Park Commission to study the possibility of an alternate route around the State Redwood Parks, particularly between Phillipsville and Greenlaw Bluff. A joint report is to be made to the Legislature by January 15, 1955.

May Meeting of Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Sierra Club held an organization meeting in San Francisco on May 2, 1953,* and considered the following conservation matters:

Interior Adviser

Bestor Robinson had again been named by the Secretary of the Interior as a member of the Advisory Committee to the Secretary, the designation being as a representative of the western United States, not specifically as a representative of the Sierra Club. He reported on a recent meeting of the committee in Washington. There were two days spent with the office of Secretary McKay, conferences with the Secretary of Agriculture on board policies, and at a meeting of the Emergency Committee on Natural Resources with President Eisenhower, he represented the club. Among the items considered by the Advisory Committee was Budget Circular C-47, concerned with the presentation of projects requiring appropriations, in which every project must be submitted separately. The issuance of this circular changes the status of a number of projects and works.

National Parks Legislation

In the discussion of this topic Conrad Wirth, Director of the National Park Service who was present at the meeting, expressed his views regarding Park Service policy. With respect to specific legislation he felt that even if the Johnson Bill (H.R. 1038) prohibiting dams in national parks and mon-

uments did not pass, the application of Budget Circular C-47 might result in deferring construction of proposed dams in Dinosaur National Monument. He felt that the Johnson Bill (H.R. 1037) proposing a Green River Canyons National Park might have a chance of passage.

The Sierra Club is planning to publicize the proposed Green River Canyons National Park by articles in the *SCB* and motion picture films.

The value of individuals writing to the Secretary of the Interior regarding their views on proposed dams in national parks was emphasized.

United States Forest Service

Regional Forester Clare Hendee spoke on behalf of the Forest Service concerning the Washington conference and an annual meeting of Forest Supervisors. He stressed that adequate appropriations are very important, but that time also is required to solve the problems.

Hearings have been held on several bills concerning appropriations for recreational funds, and people are becoming aware of the facts involved. There are three sources of funds and they appear to be in the order of preference: (1) Direct appropriation (including provisions in the budget. (2) Legislation, for a percentage of receipts (such as the Baker Bill). (3) Licensing of users, which puts the burden of cost on those who share the benefits. The costs of equitably

*Directors Bradley, Brower, Clark, Crowe, Farquhar, Hildebrand, Johnson, Kehrlein, Kimball, Kittredge, Leonard, Mauk, Nilsson and Robinson were present; Adams was excused.

Honorary President William E. Colby was present, and Honorary Vice-Presidents Francis P. Farquhar and Walter L. Huber.

Nine chapters were represented; San Diego was excused.

At the invitation of the Board various government agencies were represented by the following: Conrad L. Wirth, Director, National Park Service; Thomas C. Vint, Chief Landscape Architect, National Park Service; Lawrence C. Merriam, Director Region Four, National Park Service; John C. Preston, Superintendent, Yo-

semitic National Park; Eivind T. Scoyen, Superintendent, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks; W. S. Swingler, Assistant Chief, State and Private Forestry, U. S. Forest Service; Clare Hendee, Regional Forester, California Region, U. S. Forest Service; Millard M. Barnum, Assistant Regional Forester, Recreations and Lands, U. S. Forest Service.

Others representing club committees included Cicely M. Christy, Membership Committee chairman; Milton Hildebrand, Natural Sciences Committee chairman; John R. Barnard, Secretary, Conservation Committee; John A. Linford, Winter Sports Committee chairman; Harriet T. Parsons, Editorial Board; James E. Mulholland, Clair Tappaan Lodge chairman.

administering a license system appear unfavorable. Later in the meeting Bestor Robinson suggested further study regarding the policy of users paying directly. The proposed new Engle bills were referred to the Conservation Committee.

Pest Control in Parks

At the previous meeting of the Board, the directors had recommended that the aerial spraying of poisons in any national park for the purpose of controlling floral pests not be authorized until a full study and report had been made covering the results of information obtained from spraying outside the parks. The original question arose in regard to spraying in Tuolumne Meadows, where the needle miner was killing the lodgepole pines. Hemlocks apparently take over where the pines have been killed. It is not a question, however, of choice between the trees, but whether management of flora and fauna shall be exercised in such a way in the national parks. After a valuable report from Milton Hildebrand on the effects on wildlife of spraying or dusting with DDT, and after much discussion, it was agreed to table the question. The Conservation Committee was requested to study the broad question of the validity of control in wilderness areas and the desirability of leaving some natural, unmanaged districts both in Forest Service and Park Service areas.

Park Service Appropriations

The directors authorized President Leonard to telegraph the Senate Appropriations Committee, to urge them to recognize the importance of adequate appropriations for the maintenance, management and protection of the national parks and monuments; and to ask them to recommend to the Senate the restoration of the amounts proposed by the Administration but deleted by the House; namely, \$1,200,000 for management and protection, and a like amount for maintenance and rehabilitation.

Santa Ynez Oil and Gas

Hendee stated that a hearing was to be held in Santa Barbara on May 19 regarding oil and gas lease applications in the Santa Ynez area. The Forest Service is primarily

concerned about the watershed protection and the chief hazard—fire—and has recommended against the applications. Only small portions of the area lie within the Ventana and San Rafael wild areas. The condor refuge is not involved directly although the applications for oil exploration and development are quite close. There is a possibility, however, that the development would result in roads that would impair wilderness values. The directors agreed to request the Los Padres Chapter to represent the Sierra Club at the hearings, and to state that the club is opposed to the granting of permits for gas and oil exploration development within the condor refuge and within the Ventana and San Rafael wild areas.

Clean Camps Program

Attention was called to favorable comment by the Forest Service and the U. S. Public Health Service. Hendee commended the Sierra Club for initiating and carrying on the clean camps campaign, saying that the Forest Service considers the club's work of great value. Harold Bradley presented copies of the new illustrated folder entitled "Now Meet Hector, the Garbage Collector," which has been distributed in great numbers already. It was proposed that where feasible a contribution of two cents for each leaflet be paid by organizations that might distribute them. Edgar Wayburn indicated that in San Francisco there were requests for a thousand or more provided they could be given away. It was generally agreed that the leaflet was excellent and should be widely distributed; and it was also suggested that in the future the treatment might be somewhat broader and not confined to clean camps in the high altitude country.

John Muir Home

William Colby brought up the desirability of obtaining the Muir Home as a state park. It is a significant historical spot and a fine example of early California architecture. At present the matching fund policy of the State Park Commission is an obstacle to acquisition of this site, and there is a great discrepancy between the appraisal by the Commission and the asking price by the present owners. The directors took no action, but a

special committee will continue to work with Contra Costa County groups.

Redwood Highway

The State Parks Administration has inaugurated a study of an alternate route which would not pass through the redwoods. Preliminary investigation indicates that there is a possible bypass route (covering about 24 miles) which would stay clear of the redwoods. An engineering study is now needed to obtain all pertinent data; the immediate problem is how to finance such a study. There is a possibility that tidelands oil royalties may be available. The Belotti Bill (A.B. 2570) even as amended, is definitely undesirable and should be defeated. The

basic objection to this and other similar bills, is that the control of the removal of trees in the redwood state parks is taken away from the Parks Administration and turned over exclusively to the Highway Division.

Colby urged that if legislation is passed to remove control in this manner from the Parks Division, we should look forward to getting out an initiative. He felt that if the people of the state as a whole, realized what was being done to the park system, they would speak with an overwhelming voice.

The foregoing has been extracted from the detailed minutes compiled by Lewis F. Clark, Secretary. Complete minutes are on file in club and chapter headquarters.

Business Transacted at May Meeting

In addition to the election of officers and changes in director positions (see May SCB), the business transacted at the May meeting of the Board of Directors included the following:

Honorary Officers: William E. Colby was unanimously reelected Honorary President of the Sierra Club, and the twelve Honorary Vice Presidents of the club were also reelected.

Honorary Life Member: Dr. Wallace Sterling, President of Stanford University, was unanimously elected an Honorary Life Member of the Sierra Club.

Executive Director: Action was taken to create the permanent post of Executive Director of the Sierra Club, and David R. Brower was named to that post.

Brower reported on his temporary term as Executive Director for the period December 15, 1952 to May 2, 1953. He cited the great volume of conservation material affecting legislation and countrywide welfare since the advent of the new national administration, and related this to the broadening interests of the Sierra Club and other organizations which are collaborating in what may be called the "conservation front." He pointed out that even with the expanding responsibilities of the Executive Director's job, the interests of the club still require full effort from volunteers who contribute their time and thoughts as individuals and as members of various committees—those now at work and others to come.

Budget: The total budget for 1953-1954, sub-

mitted by the Executive Director, in total amount of \$58,300.00, was approved by the directors. It was noted that in spite of the increase in dues, from six dollars to seven dollars for the current year, the rate of receiving dues has been higher this year.

Fiscal Year: Leonard recommended that the fiscal year be changed to end December 31, instead of March 31, since the latter date appears to be causing some difficulties. However, dues collections would continue as usual in the spring, to be tied in with the ballot for the election of directors, since dues allocations for the new fiscal year can be calculated in a satisfactory manner at that time. The directors approved a fiscal year from January 1 to December 31.

Angeles Chapter: William Henderson, chairman of the chapter in Los Angeles, stated that the "Southern California" chapter (the oldest one in the club, organized in 1905) had decided, now that several other chapters exist in Southern California, to change the name to Los Angeles Chapter, and that further consideration was being given to modifying this to "Angeles" chapter. It was unanimously approved by the directors that the chapter name be changed to "Angeles," subject to chapter approval.

Other Chapters: Dana Abell reported that the Tehipite Chapter was now organized, with officers yet to be elected.

The directors observed that it would be desirable for the change in the fiscal year of the club to apply also to the fiscal year reports of the several chapters, and the Executive Director was authorized so to advise the chapters.

GENERAL LIBRARY,

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN,

ANN ARBOR, MICH.

Committees of the Sierra Club

There are more committees in the Sierra Club than most of the membership has ever dreamed of—28 at present! Some of them are more concerned than others with activities that are before the public eye, such as conservation, editorial, lodges and lands, winter sports, mountaineering, natural sciences and outings. All should be better known. For the first time in latter-day club history we are prepared—thanks to the mean whip President Leonard has been cracking—to list all the committees, their current chairmen and (briefly) their scope.

Committee on Committees (Cicely M. Christy): Talent scout for the president.

Clair Tappaan Lodge (James Mulholland): Administers the lodge and adjoining lands.

Conservation (John R. Barnard): Studies immediate and long-range conservation matters and recommends action to Board of Directors.

Conservation Administration (John R. Barnard): Consists of chairman of Conservation Committee, club secretary, Executive Director and President ex officio. In emergency conservation matters between meetings of Board and Executive Committee, appraises what position club should take.

Editorial (August Frugé): Publishes *Sierra Club Bulletin* and Sierra Club books. Has supervisory authority over all club publications.

Elections (Katharine Tubby): Judges results of annual election of Board of Directors.

Education through Television (Oliver Kehrein): Special committee to study Sierra Club role in educational television.

Federation (Arthur H. Blake): Maintains liaison with Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs and nominates delegate to its convention.

Insurance (Robert L. Lipman): Recommends club policy in insurance matters.

Investment and Accounting (Clifford V. Heimbucher): Advises treasurer in investment of club funds and in auditing club accounts.

Legal (Robert L. Lipman): Adviser to President and Board on legal matters.

Library and Rooms (Alfred E. Weiler): Responsible for collections and archives.

Lodges and Lands (Laurence Burnley): Recommends policy for administering lodges; administers public-service lodges of club.

Membership (Francis Whitaker): Recommends measures for strengthening club membership; processes applications.

Morley (Boynton S. Kaiser): Administers Morley Fund income, screens applicants.

Mountaineering (Hervey Voge): Coordinates chapter rock-climbing sections; cooperates with safety programs of other organizations and rescue work. Compiles *Climber's Guide*.

Muir Memorial (H. Stewart Kimball).

Natural Sciences (A. Starker Leopold): Recommends action on natural science aspects of conservation; maintains glacier records.

Nominating (Francis P. Farquhar): Nominates candidates for Board of Directors.

Office Personnel (Boynton S. Kaiser): Special committee studying classification of staff.

Outing (H. Stewart Kimball): Administers wilderness outing program.

Place Names (Erwin G. Gудde): Makes recommendations on proposed place names; communicates with government agencies involved.

Public Relations (William J. Losh): Advises Executive Committee on methods of presenting club views on conservation matters.

Special Events (Mary Paige): Recommends committees for special events of club.

Trails (Walter Starr): Compiles master plan on High Sierra trails; revises *Starr's Guide*.

Visual Education (Charlotte E. Mauk): Coordinates projects for producing club films and slide collections; administers distribution.

Wilderness Conference Interim Commission (Milton Hildebrand).

Winter Sports (John A. Linford): Compiles master plan for hut and ski-way system; administers ski activities.

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